

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of associating a selected object on any printed material to a valid response provided by a computer system comprising:
determining a position on a page of the printed material;
transmitting the position to the computer system;
correlating the position to selected content associated with the printed materials, the selected content being accessible by the computer system; and
providing a valid response to a user based at least in part on the position and the correlated content, wherein the valid response includes at least one of rendering audio content, rendering video content, rendering image content, rendering text content, and performing an action by the computer system.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the position comprises detecting ultrasound signal timing information generated by an electronic pen situated near the printed material.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein correlating the position comprises searching a printed material database, the printed material database comprising positional information of objects on the pages.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein performing the action comprises selecting a language to be used for subsequent responses.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein performing the action comprises at least one of adjusting volume of a speaker, adjusting brightness of a computer monitor, sending commands to an input/output (I/O) port, and powering off the computer system.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the printed material comprises a traditional paper book.

7. An article comprising: a storage medium having a plurality of machine accessible instructions, wherein when the instructions are executed by a processor, the instructions provide for associating a selected object on any printed material to a valid response provided by a computer system by determining a position on a page of the printed material; transmitting the position to the computer system; correlating the position to selected content associated with the printed materials, the selected content being accessible by the computer system; and providing a valid response to a user based at least in part on the position and the correlated content, wherein the valid response includes at least one of rendering audio content, rendering video content, rendering image content, rendering text content, and performing an action by the computer system.

8. The article of claim 7, wherein instructions for determining the position comprise instructions for detecting ultrasound signal timing information generated by an electronic pen situated near the printed material.

9. The article of claim 7, wherein instructions for correlating the position comprise instructions for searching a printed material database, the printed material database comprising positional information of objects on the pages.

10. The article of claim 7, wherein instructions for performing the action comprise instructions for selecting a language to be used for subsequent responses.

11. The article of claim 7, wherein the action comprises at least one of adjusting volume of a speaker, adjusting brightness of a computer monitor, sending commands to an input/output (I/O) port, and powering off the computer system.

12. A system for associating a selected object on any printed material to a valid response provided by a computer system comprising:
 - a pointing device to determine a position on the printed material;
 - a communicating device to transmit the position to the computer system;
 - a player component to correlate the position to selected content associated with the printed materials, the selected content being accessible by the computer system; and to provide a valid response to a user based at least in part on the position and the correlated content, wherein the valid response includes at least one of rendering audio content, rendering video content, rendering image content, rendering text content, and performing an action by the computer system.
13. The system of claim 12, wherein the pointing device comprises an electronic pen.
14. The system of claim 12, further comprising a holder structure to hold the printed materials in a fixed relationship to the pointing device.
15. The system of claim 12, further comprising a multimedia database to store digital multimedia content, a printed material content database to store positional information about objects on the pages and linkage information between the objects and at least one of the multimedia contents and actions, and an action library to store directives for actions to be performed on the system.
16. The system of claim 12, wherein the printed material comprises a traditional paper book.
17. The system of claim 12, wherein the action comprises selecting a language to be used for subsequent responses.

18. The system of claim 12, wherein the action comprises at least one of adjusting volume of a speaker, adjusting brightness of a computer monitor, sending commands to an input/output (I/O) port, and powering off the computer system.